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or excuse for amplifying this article by the advancement of contrary views, and conclude with a hearty commendation of the volume.

PELHAM EDGAR.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN : What is it and how we enter it. By the Rev. G. H. S. Walpole, D.D., Rector of Lambeth and Examining Chaplain to the Archbishop of York. London: Elliot Stock. 1909.

Two important series of lectures have been delivered at the General Theological Seminary on the Bishop Paddock foundation during the past two years, both of which have appeared in book form. One of these books, entitled *Evolution and the Fall*, by Professor Francis J. Hall, D.D., will be reviewed in a subsequent issue. The present series of lectures, entitled *The Kingdom of Heaven*, was delivered in the spring of 1909 by Dr. Walpole, who until recently was rector of Lambeth, and last June was consecrated as Bishop of Edinburgh. Dr. Walpole held the chair of Dogmatic Theology in the General Theological Seminary in New York, from 1889 to 1896, and is well known both in this country and in England as a writer on religious subjects. Of deeply spiritual nature, his mind moves naturally and freely in the region of Scriptural truth; his eyes are open to the great realities of the world of the Unseen. These characteristics of mind and heart find abundant scope as the author deals with the great subject of the Kingdom of Heaven.

This conception has at different periods in the history of Christianity been successively identified with (1) the vision of an Apocalyptic future, (2) the empirical Church as a quasi-political organization, and (3) the idea of a perfected human social order. Each of these interpretations in turn Dr. Walpole finds inadequate to the expression of the full content and meaning of the Kingdom of Heaven. What, then, is the true interpretation of this great theme of our Lord's teaching; of this Kingdom which He came on earth to establish? "We are led to the conclusion that by the Kingdom of Heaven we mean a realm, principality or dominion in the heavenly sphere; and it is the Kingdom of God as being that over which God rules" (pp. 15, 16). "The

passages in which our Lord speaks of 'the Kingdom' suggest that it is the spiritual Kingdom in the midst of mankind, everywhere present, and attested by the expulsion of the spirits of darkness." The Kingdom of Heaven is not limited in its scope or extent to the Church, yet the Church is the 'outwork,' so to speak, of the Kingdom, and the agency by means of which the latter is visibly propagated among mankind. The relation of the Kingdom of Heaven to Nature is treated in a most suggestive and interesting way. That which we call 'Nature,' with its laws and forces, is but the sensible and material expression of that unseen realm which envelops and surrounds it, and of which it is the outward counterpart and symbol. Angels are more than poetic personifications or mythologic fancies; they are real, actual beings, bearing an active and most essential part in carrying forward the great designs of their and our supreme Lord and King. The relation of the Kingdom of Heaven to the State is next taken up; and finally the qualifications for entering and seeing the Kingdom. These are stated to be four in number; namely, New Birth, Dependence (including Humility and Wonder), Discipline, and Tribulation.

The book abounds in material not only for spiritual meditation and reflection, but also for homiletical instruction, whether from the pulpit, or in the Sunday School or Bible class. To every earnest student of God's Word it cannot fail to be both helpful and refreshing, particularly in these days of Sadduceeism and superficial rationalistic thought.

W. S. BISHOP.

THE BALL AND THE CROSS. By Gilbert K. Chesterton. New York: John Lane Company. 1909.

A recent reviewer of Mr. Chesterton's last story complains that though the author probably knows what it means, he won't tell—at least in the book. For those who, like the present writer, try to read all of Mr. Chesterton's works—and who enjoy them without trying—the meaning of *The Ball and the Cross* does not seem at all hopelessly obscure. Indeed, for anyone who has already enjoyed *Heretics* and *The Man*